

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-37 are pending in this application, of which claims 4, 6, 9-29, 31 and 32 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 3, 8 and 33 have been amended. Claim 5 has been canceled. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1-2, 5, 8, 30 and 33-35 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,084,746 to Shiraishi et al. (hereinafter "**Shiraishi et al.**") in view of U.S. Patent 4,173,907 to Mones et al. (hereinafter "**Mones et al.**").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Shiraishi et al. discloses a magnetic disc device wherein temperature increase in the head IC chip can effectively suppressed. The magnetic head device comprises a slider having a magnetic head, a suspension structure having one end supporting the slider, and a head IC chip, the head IC chip being mounted on the suspension structure at a side adapted to be faced to a magnetic recording disc.

The Examiner has admitted that **Shiraishi et al.** fails to disclose a layer covering the semiconductor chip, but has cited **Mones et al.** for teaching this feature.

Mones et al. discloses a method of protecting bumped semiconductor chips in which a thin passivation layer of glass 14 covers the upper surface of the chips. Column 1, lines 51-54 disclose no more than that the upper surface of each IC chip is covered with a thin layer of SiO₂ or protective lass 14. Fig. 1 of **Mones et al.** suggests that because the chips are still in wafer

form and have not been cut, the protective glass layer 14 cannot cover the peripheral side portions of each chip, as recited in claim 5.

Accordingly, claim 5 has been canceled and its limitations added to claims 1, 8 and 33.

Thus, the 35 USC §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has allowed claims 36 and 37 and has indicated that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 3 has been so amended.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-3, 8, 30 and 33-35, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

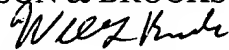
If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/548,313
Response to Office Action dated April 23, 2004

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



William L. Brooks

Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No. 34,129

WLB/mla
Atty. Docket No. 000452
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE